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acquired a background of interesting facts, many of them expressed in quantitative form. He has concrete evidence of the dynamic character of social and economic life, the constant changes which render his judgments and conclusions relative to time and place. Using this background of facts, it is possible to develop a scientific attitude of mind in the approach to social and economic problems. The training in statistical methods and practice may be made a means to this most desirable end. *Statistics may serve a purpose for the social sciences similar to that which the laboratory serves in the natural sciences.* If offered to the undergraduate at the threshold of his professional training it will gather together and preserve as useful many of the exact methods of mathematics by showing their application to the data in his field of study. In some respects the college senior is in a much better position to study and profit by statistical methods than the present graduate student.

Finally, to read and appreciate the literature in his field, and to consult intelligently the sources of information, many of which are in quantitative form, the student of the social sciences, theoretical and applied, needs some training in statistical methods. Figures may speak for themselves, but not necessarily the truth. The student faces masses of quantitative data in so-called statistical reports, and he requires some principles by which he may judge their credibility and adequacy for his purposes. Quantitative statements do not usually bear on their face the stamp of their credibility. The independent student must be skeptical of his own facts and those produced by others.

If the undergraduate is trained in the elements of statistical method the way will be clear, when he enters a business school or a graduate department, to take up at once the research problems of his chosen field without having to acquire for the first time a knowledge of tools and methods in the use of which he already should have acquired skill.

ROBERT E. CHADDOCK

Columbia University

EUGENICS CONGRESS

The Second International Congress of Eugenics which recently has completed its sessions at the American Museum of Natural History, had a far larger and more enthusiastic attendance than was foreseen. The congress was planned with certain major policies in view. The first of these involved the presentation to those attending the congress of a large body of biological facts which might serve as a firm foundation upon which any theoretical treatment of eugenics should rest. Scientific communications dealing with human and comparative heredity formed, therefore, the first section of the congress. There were thirty-two such papers on the program. Among those contributing papers to the program were Dr. E. G. Conklin, Dr. C. E. McClung, Dr. C. R. Stockard, Dr. A. J. Rosanoff, Dr. H. S. Jennings, and Dr. Lucien Cuénot of Nancy, France. The latter gave the leading address of this section.

A dinner for all those interested in genetics was held during the period of the congress and was attended by about fifty members. This gave opportunity for an evening of pleasant social intercourse and for the exchange of ideas. The

splendid backing which the geneticists gave the congress formed one of its most striking features and was the greatest single factor which contributed to its success, inasmuch as it removed completely the criticism formerly directed against eugenics to the effect that as a science it depended too much on theoretical and too little on experimental facts.

Inasmuch as another criticism, which in the past has made a good deal of trouble for sincere eugenicists, has been the failure of certain agitators masquerading under the title of eugenicists to subscribe to the laws of marriage common to our present social system, it seemed desirable to feature the value and applicability of the human family in eugenic research. Therefore the second section of the congress dealt with this topic. Dr. Lucien March, chief statistician of the French Government, gave the leading address in this section. The twenty-two papers which made up its program included addresses by Dr. Helen Dean King, Dr. David Starr Jordan, Dr. Corrado Gini, Dr. Frederick Adams Woods, and Dr. Roswell H. Johnson.

The importance of the biology of races to the world in general, and to the United States in particular, is evident. The hybrid nature of our population for generations to come is certain and it is, therefore, incumbent upon us to learn all that we possibly can concerning the problems of anthropology which deal especially with racial crossing and combination of racial types. The third section of the congress, therefore, dealt with this topic. The leading address was given by Dr. G. V. de Lapouge of Poitiers, France, who dealt with the topic of race among mixed populations. Among the fifteen papers given were addresses by Dr. Jon Alfred Mjöen, Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, Dr. Radcliffe N. Salaman, Dr. Ales Hrdlicka, Dr. C. E. Seashore, and Dr. W. McDougall.

The fourth section of the congress dealt with the application of eugenics to the state. Here it was necessary to offer freedom of discussion without allowing extreme radicals and faddists to become rampant. In this respect this section offered one of the greatest problems of the congress. Its success was shown in the large and enthusiastic audience which attended all its sessions, and by the successful dinner which it held during the congress in conjunction with section two. The topics discussed in its thirty-five papers were many and diverse. Throughout, a note of seriousness and regard for the truth, unfortunately absent in some of the eugenic communications of past years, was apparent. Among those contributing papers were Dr. Raymond Pearl, Dr. E. M. East, Dr. D. F. Ramos, Dr. Harriette A. Dilla, Dr. W. McDougall, Mr. Otto E. Koegel, Dr. Stewart Paton, and Dr. V. Giuffrida-Ruggeri.

A large exhibit of the results of a great variety of research in eugenics was held in conjunction with the congress. Dr. H. H. Laughlin of the Eugenics Record Office, Cold Spring Harbor, N. Y., had charge of the assembling and preparation of these exhibits. As a feature for public education and for arousing interest the exhibit will long be remembered by all those who saw it. It remained open to the public for approximately three weeks following the congress. During that time almost one thousand people registered, and the attendance must have been several times this number.

The press notices of the congress and the general treatment by the public were

in marked contrast with those accorded past efforts in the field of eugenics. This is, perhaps, the most striking and encouraging feature of all. It represents an awakened conscience on the part of the American reading public to the fact that racial features determine the course of history, and that their control is far more practicable than was formerly supposed.

It is likely that in the future we shall look back upon this congress as simply a tiny step in the direction of what may then be accomplished, but at the present time it may be said to represent a changed viewpoint and an awakened interest which augurs well for progress in research and in the resulting accumulation of constructive knowledge in this field.

C. C. LITTLE

FREDERICK S. CRUM

Frederick S. Crum, born at West Candor, New York, on December 13, 1872, died accidentally by drowning near Oakland, Maine, on September 2, 1921, in his fiftieth year.

After graduating from Cornell University in 1893 Dr. Crum continued his studies there with statistics as his main field of work, receiving a master's degree in 1895 and a doctor's degree in 1897. His thesis for his master's degree was on the Vital Statistics of Massachusetts, 1850-90. This was in a real sense a preparation for the work of his later life and ripened into his earliest printed articles, one on the Marriage Rate in Massachusetts, which appeared in the *QUARTERLY PUBLICATIONS* in 1895 (Vol. IV, pp. 322-39) and another on the Birth Rate in Massachusetts, which appeared in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* in 1897. His thesis for his doctor's degree on The Statistical Work of Süssmilch, which also appeared in this journal, though less an expression of his primary and predominant interest, is one of the few significant American articles on the history of statistics, and is still the one authority on its topic. It is freely cited by the Germans as the fullest summary of the work of their great statistician.

Almost immediately after ending his academic training he entered the service of the Prudential Life Insurance Company and soon became assistant statistician under Dr. Hoffman, a position which he retained with steadily growing usefulness to the company and the country until his untimely death.

Dr. Crum's most important statistical work lay in the fields of infant mortality and vitality, accident statistics, and the decrease in the native American stock. In the field of infant mortality he published a series of investigations (the first appearing in 1913) into the most fatal diseases of infancy and childhood, namely, measles, whooping-cough, diphtheria, and scarlet fever. Here also belong his two studies of infant mortality in the United States during the war years, 1917 and 1918, one on seasonal and geographical variations in infant mortality, and the other on infant mortality and its effect on the after-life-time of survivors. With this group should be placed the standard anthropometric tables for children 6-48 months old, started in connection with the better babies' campaign in his home city of Newark, later extended at the invitation of the American Medical Association, and finally used throughout the country by the Federal Children's Bureau. The campaign to secure periodical measurement of height and weight